

They testified against it in committee. The proponents of the bill and the Banking Department then sat down, discussed the bill and came up with some compromise amendments which have been distributed and which I talked about briefly. Basically, what they do is there will be a public hearing held, however, that will be held to determine if the applicant of a charter has stockholders and officers of integrity and responsibility. However, no public convenience is necessary to be shown if the credit cooperative has more than a hundred members. The second amendment deals with preferential rights to the members of the CCA to allow them to convert their ownership from the credit cooperative to an equal ownership in the bank, and the third amendment deals with the capitalization requirement. We had lowered that for this down to \$500,000 rather than the necessary \$750,000. However, if the FDIC chooses not to allow them membership in the FDIC, then they can go back to their Nebraska Depository Institution Guarantee Corporation which now insures credit cooperatives and they can function with that. So the Department has removed this opposition to this bill, and I would just urge you to advance it and if my fellow colleagues who are also cosponsors of this bill would like to address it, I would urge them to do so. Thank you.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Senator Hefner.

SENATOR HEFNER: Mr. President and members of the body, I rise to support Rod Johnson's amendments. I think that they are very good. They help the bill out and also our State Banking Department can now support the bill. If you look in your bill book, you will find that they were the only ones that testified against the bill, and so I think it is very important that we adopt these amendments, and then I would like to talk a little later on the bill after it has been amended.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Senator Schmit, did you wish to talk to the amendments? So Senator Schmit won't have to run, I will announce some guests while he gets his breath. Under the south balcony we have a famous person, Connie Claussen who is Coordinator of Womens Athletics at the University of Nebraska at Omaha. Would you please stand? In the north balcony we have 23 students from Scribner High School who are guests of Senator Chronister, and Mike Thompson is their teacher. Would you please rise? Then under the south balcony we have guests of Senator Jim Goll, Mrs. Ruth Jacobsen, Office Manager of his Ford Dealership in Tekamah. Senator Schmit.

SENATOR SCHMIT: Mr. President and members of the Legislature,